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CLAIMS:

What is claimed is:

1.   A method of conducting a wagering game on a gaming machine, comprising:

receiving a first wager from a player;

randomly determining a first game outcome;

providing the player with a game asset for the first game outcome being a predetermined game outcome, the game asset for altering a second game outcome;

receiving a second wager from the player;

randomly determining the second game outcome;

receiving the game asset from the player;

altering the second game outcome to obtain a modified game outcome in response to the game asset; and

awarding the player for a winning modified game outcome.

2.   The method of conducting a wagering game as described in claim 1, including awarding the player for a winning second game outcome.

3.   The method of conducting a wagering game as described in claim 1, including awarding the player for a winning first game outcome.

4.   The method of conducting a wagering game as described in claim 1, wherein the game asset is in the form of a ticket.

5.   The method of conducting a wagering game as described in claim 4, wherein receiving the game asset is inserting the ticket into a bill validator associated with the gaming machine.

6.   The method of conducting a wagering game as described in claim 1, wherein receiving the game asset is inserting a data storage medium into a player-tracking card reader associated with the gaming machine.

7.   The method of conducting a wagering game as described in claim 1, wherein the game asset transforms a predetermined symbol into a wild symbol.

8.   The method of conducting a wagering game as described in claim 1, wherein the game asset transposes symbols into new positions.

9.   The method of conducting a wagering game as described in claim 1, wherein the game asset creates a new pay line.

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10. The method of conducting a wagering game as described in claim 1, wherein the game asset is received by the gaming machine after the second game outcome is displayed.

11. The method of conducting a wagering game as described in claim 1, wherein the player is provided a plurality of game assets.

12. The method of conducting a wagering game as described in claim 11, wherein less than all of the game assets are received from the player.

13. The method of conducting a wagering game as described in claim 12, wherein the combination of game assets received from the player determines the modified game outcome.

14. A method of conducting a wagering game on a gaming machine, comprising:

receiving a first wager from a player;

randomly determining a first game outcome;

providing the player with a game asset for the first game outcome being a predetermined outcome, the game asset for determining a modified award;

receiving a second wager from the player;

randomly determining a second game outcome;

determining the award for a winning second game outcome;

receiving the game asset from the player;

modifying the award as a function of the game asset; and

providing the modified award.

15. The method of conducting a wagering game as described in claim 14, including awarding the player for a winning first game outcome.

16. The method of conducting a wagering game as described in claim 14, wherein the game asset is in the form of a ticket.

17. The method of conducting a wagering game as described in claim 16, wherein receiving the game asset is inserting the ticket into a bill validator associated with the gaming machine.

18. The method of conducting a wagering game as described in claim 14, wherein receiving the game asset is inserting a data storage medium into a player-tracking card reader associated with the gaming machine.

19.   The method of conducting a wagering game as described in claim 14, wherein the game asset is a multiplier.

20.   The method of conducting a wagering game as described in claim 14, wherein the game asset is a credit value added to the second game outcome award.

21.   A method of conducting a wagering game having a series of progressive game levels on a gaming machine, comprising:

receiving a first wager from a player;

randomly determining a first game outcome;

associating the first game outcome with the corresponding game level;

providing a game asset in response to cashing out of the gaming machine, the game asset for storing the corresponding game level;

receiving a second wager from the player;

receiving the game asset from the player;

configuring the wagering game in response to the game asset to the corresponding game level;

randomly determining a second game outcome; and

making an award to the player for a winning second game outcome, the award corresponding to the game level attained.

22.   The method of conducting a wagering game as described in claim 21, including awarding the player for a winning first game outcome.

23.   The method of conducting a wagering game as described in claim 21, wherein the game asset is in the form of a ticket.

24.   The method of conducting a wagering game as described in claim 23, wherein receiving the game asset is inserting the ticket into a bill validator associated with the gaming machine.

25.   The method of conducting a wagering game as described in claim 21, wherein the game levels represent segments of an overall game.

26.   The method of conducting a wagering game as described in claim 21, wherein each of the series of game levels corresponds to an award amount.

27.   A method of conducting a wagering game on a gaming machine, comprising:

receiving a wager to initiate the wagering game;

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randomly determining a first game outcome;

providing a first game asset in response to the first game outcome being a first predetermined game outcome, the first game asset for modifying a third game outcome in accordance with a first rule;

randomly determining a second game outcome;

providing a second game asset in response to the second game outcome being a second predetermined game outcome, the second game asset for modifying the third game outcome in accordance with a second rule;

receiving a game asset selection selected from the group of the first game asset, the second game asset, or both the first and the second game asset;

randomly determining the third game outcome;

modifying the third game outcome as a function of the game asset selection to provide a modified game outcome; and

awarding the player for a winning modified game outcome.

28.   A method of conducting a wagering game on a gaming machine having a base and bonus game, comprising:

receiving a wager to initiate the wagering game;

randomly determining the first base game outcome;

providing a game asset in response to the first base outcome being a predetermined game outcome;

randomly determining a second base game outcome;

triggering a bonus game in response to the second base game outcome being a start-bonus outcome;

randomly determining a bonus game outcome;

receiving the game asset from the player;

altering the bonus game outcome in response to the game asset; and

awarding the player for a winning bonus game outcome.

29.   The method of conducting a wagering game as described in claim 28, including awarding the player for a winning second game outcome.

30.   The method of conducting a wagering game as described in claim 28, including awarding the player for a winning first game outcome.

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31.   The method of conducting wagering game as described in claim 28, wherein the player is provided a plurality of game assets.

32.   The method of conducting wagering game as described in claim 31, wherein less than all of the game assets are received from the player.

33.   The method of conducting wagering game as described in claim 32, wherein the combination of game assets received from the player determine how the bonus game is altered.

34.   The method of conducting a wagering game as described in claim 28, including receiving a second wager from the player to initiate the second base game outcome.

35.   A method of modifying a wagering game, comprising:

providing a player with a game asset associated with a game outcome on a first gaming machine;

receiving a game asset in a second gaming machine that conducts the wagering game; and

modifying the wagering game based on the received game asset.

36.   The method of modifying a wagering game as described in claim 35, wherein the step of modifying the wagering game provides the player with a higher probability of a winning game outcome.

37.   The method of modifying a wagering game as described in claim 35, wherein the step of modifying the wagering game provides the player with a larger potential award.

38.   The method of modifying a wagering game as described in claim 35, wherein the step of modifying the wagering game provides the player with a predetermined game segment.